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CHARLES MOSTOLLER

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3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

BOY KILLED BY GATOR MOURNED AT NEBRASKA FUNERAL

Mourners gathered at a Nebraska church on Tuesday to remember a 2-year-old boy who was grabbed and drowned by an alligator while vacationing with his family last week at the Disney World Resort in Florida, a church official said. The private service for Lane Graves at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in the Omaha suburb of Elkhorn, came a week after his death captured international attention and called into question how Disney handles the risk from alligators at the resort. "We ask that you pray for this family and respect their privacy as they go through such a devastating event," St. Patrick's Parish said in a statement on its website. The church is accepting donations to benefit the boy's family, who live in Elkhorn. REUTERS

CLERK OPPOSED TO GAY MARRIAGE SAYS STATE LAW NEGATES APPEAL

2 The Kentucky clerk who was jailed for refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples asked a federal appeals court on Tuesday to dismiss her appeal because the state's new law to remove clerks' names from licenses made her action unnecessary. Attorneys for Rowan County clerk Kim Davis filed a motion with the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals asking for the dismissal since the state's new law will go into effect two weeks before the case was due for oral arguments. Last summer, Davis refused to issue licenses to gay couples after the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to legalize same-sex marriage, drawing international attention and triggering demonstrations and legal actions. REUTERS

TWITTER USERS CAN POST 140-SECOND VIDEOS

3 Twitter, known for its 140-character limit on tweets, is now allowing users to post longer videos — of up to 140 seconds. The change highlights co-founder Jack Dorsey-led Twitter's recent push into video, an area where it lags Facebook and Google's YouTube, and efforts to revive stalled user growth. In another move, Twitter will start allowing video publishers to make money out of their content on Vine, its video streaming service. Vine will use Twitter's Amplify Open program, which runs ads before a video starts playing. Twitter previously restricted videos to 30 seconds. The new 140-second video limit also applies to Vine, which previously had a six-second limit. Twitter also launched "Twitter Engage," a mobile app that allows users with a large number of followers to track their posts and see what their fans are tweeting about. REUTERS

Rep. Chaka Fattah guilty on all charges in corruption case

Eleven-term congressman defeated in primary will be sentenced in October.

SAM NEWHOUSE and ALEXIS SACHDEV
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Rep. Chaka Fattah spoke with, then ran from, the media after pleading not guilty to corruption charges outside of the Federal Courthouse in Philadelphia. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

U.S. Rep. Chaka Fattah was found guilty Tuesday on corruption charges in federal court, more than eight years after his fundraising for an unsuccessful mayoral campaign in Philadelphia sparked a federal probe.

He was convicted on all 23 charges related to racketeering, fraud, bribery, money laundering and conspiracy.

"Tough day," Fattah said while leaving federal court.

"I do want to thank the jurors," he added before being driven away. He declined to comment further.

Fattah, 59, served 11 terms in the House representing Pennsylvania's 2nd Congressional District. He was defeated in the Democratic primary in April by state Rep. Dwight Evans after being indicted.

The guilty verdict came at the end of the most closely watched political corruption trial in Philadelphia in years, and just months after his son, Chaka "Chip" Fattah Jr., was sentenced to five years on separate fraud charges.

"Congressman Fattah corruptly abused his office for his own personal and political gain," said Assistant Attorney General Leslie Caldwell. "He took bribes, committed fraud and even stole money from his own campaigns. In short, Congressman Fattah and his co-defendants deprived the people of eastern Pennsylvania of their right to the honest services of their elected representative."

Four associates of Fattah charged in the same case — Herbert Vederman, a former deputy mayor on whose behalf Fattah sought an appointment as ambassador; Robert Brand; Karen Nicholas; and Bonnie Bowser — were also convicted.

"This is an extraordinarily difficult day for me and my family," Fattah said in a statement after the verdict. "While today's outcome isn't what we had hoped, I respect our nation's judicial system. I want to thank the people of the Second Congressional District for the honor of serving them."

According to prosecutors, Fattah, who was born Arthur Davenport, misused federal funds to pay off personal and political debts, and to benefit his family and friends.

Testimony at trial came from former friends and confidants who detailed how Fattah's financial schemes unraveled.

"In connection with his failed 2007 campaign to serve as mayor of Philadelphia, Fattah and certain associates borrowed $1 million from a wealthy supporter, and disguised the funds as a loan to a consulting company," federal prosecutors said in a press release after his conviction.

Fattah used Educational Advancement Alliance, a nonprofit he controlled, to repay $600,000 of the loan. He also used campaign funds to pay off $23,000 of his son's student loans. He fraudulently applied for a $15 million grant, which he did not receive, to cover a $130,000 debt to a consultant, and while seeking an ambassadorship for Vederman, concealed an $18,000 bribe as payment for a sham car sale.

The car in question is believed to have been used by Fattah's wife, former NBC10 anchor Renee Chenault-Fattah. Chenault-Fattah left NBC10 after Fattah was indicted.

Fattah is scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 4.

"This is an extraordinarily difficult day for me and my family. A jury has decided that based on the evidence presented to them that I am guilty of charges presented by the government."

Rep. Chaka Fattah

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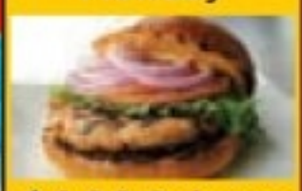

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Saturday

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Philly police seek suspects in 5-on-1 assault outside Geno's

The suspects fled in two getaway cars after the June 11 attack at a restaurant.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Police are asking for the public's help as they seek information relating to a brawl outside Geno's Steaks on June 11.

Surveillance footage released by the Philadelphia Police Department shows a group of five unidentified men attacking two couples, then fleeing in two vehicles with New Jersey license plates. Police are also searching for one woman described as a getaway driver, the Philadelphia Inquirer reported.

The PPD has edited the footage, claiming the assault was too graphic to show. Patrick Kane, a victim in the assault, provided an account of the events that morning.

At approximately 4:15 a.m., Kane, of Jenkintown, his wife, Brooke, and their two friends, a couple, went to Geno's on South Ninth Street after a night of partying.

See video of the brawl at **metro.us**

"My wife's girlfriend asked the guys at the table, 'Can I have a cigarette?' and then off they went. Guy got real angry at us," Kane told CBS3.

Kane said the violence escalated quickly, and one member of the group claimed to be an ISIS member.

One man stood up, put his hand on the face of the woman and pushed her across the sidewalk.

"Don't mess with us, we belong to ISIS," Kane said the man shouted.

That's when Kane's wife stepped in, telling the guys the ISIS comment wasn't a joke. Then they hit her. Kane and his male friend tried to help the women, but the group wouldn't let them leave. One man punched Kane in the nose, and another man punched him in the back of the head and twice in the eye.

Brooke Kane yelled for someone to call the police, and the five men fled in two vehicles, a dark-colored pickup truck and an SUV.

Kane turned down medical treatment, saying it was just a cut and a black eye, and did not go to the hospital.

"It's ridiculous this is what happens in the city. People can't even go anywhere in the city anymore. It escalates the violence. It's just stupid," he told CBS3.

Authorities are asking anyone with information to contact the Central Detective Division at 215-686-3093 or 3094. To submit an anonymous tip, dial 215-686-TIPS (8477) or text a tip to PPD TIP or 773847.

A surveillance photo from the brawl PROVIDED

"It's ridiculous this is what happens in the city. People can't even go anywhere in the city anymore. It escalates the violence. It's just stupid." Kane

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Charges filed in park stabbing

The victim, Toy Charda Bryant, was handcuffed, stabbed and shot.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Shavon Armstrong HANDOUT

Police have filed charges one week after a woman's body was found handcuffed, stabbed and shot in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park.

Shavon Armstrong, 39, turned herself into police over the weekend, and as of Tuesday faced murder, criminal conspiracy, kidnapping, robbery and other related offenses, according to a CBS3 report.

Shintele Smith, 28, of South Bialy Street was also arrested Tuesday and faces murder, criminal conspiracy, kidnapping, robbery, unlawful restraint and other charges.

On the morning of June 14, 28-year-old Toy Charda Bryant's body was found facedown near the Mann Center. She had been stabbed repeatedly, shot once in the back of the head and handcuffed.

Bryant, of Chester, Delaware County, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Cops said they believe Armstrong, aka "Palladium Smith," of Wilkes-Barre, was an accomplice to the murder.

"She was in the vehicle," Philadelphia Police Capt. James Clark said.

"She helped drive the defendant to the park. We know that she helped plan and orchestrate it."

Clark told CBS3 that the motive behind the slaying was an $800 debt.

Bryant apparently owed Smith money, but was unable to pay. Police said Bryant and her alleged killers were longtime friends.

MARIJUANA BUST

Two Philly men arrested for alleged 900-pound weed haul

Two men from Philadelphia are facing charges after they were caught allegedly transporting more than 900 pounds of marijuana Monday, police said.

Maryland State Police pulled over a U-Haul van for a traffic violation on the Interstate 95 exit ramp to Route 279 around 8 p.m., the Associated Press reported. A drug detection dog alerted officers to the presence of drugs, and a search turned up 938 pounds of marijuana in the van's cargo deck.

Driver and passenger Baojie Chen and Da Fen Xiong, both 23 and from Philadelphia, have been charged with possession of a controlled dangerous substance, possession of more than 50 pounds of marijuana and possession with intent to distribute.

ALEXIS SACHDEV

The men allegedly had 938 pounds of the green stuff. GETTY IMAGES

SHOOTING

Two hospitalized after shooting near North Philly school

Two people were sent to the hospital after a shooting in the Strawberry Mansion neighborhood late Tuesday morning, prompting a lockdown at a nearby school.

Philadelphia police said an 18-year-old woman was shot at 11:15 a.m. on the 2400 block of Diamond Street.

A young man believed to be in his late teens or early 20s was found unresponsive.

Both were transported to the hospital, 6ABC and CBS3 reported.

The Philadelphia School District ordered a lockdown at William Dick Elementary School, a kindergarten through eighth grade public school at 2498 Diamond Street.

William Dick Elementary School GOOGLE MAPS

A spokesman for the school district said he wasn't sure when the lockdown was lifted, but he received notice of it around 1 p.m.

It was unclear whether the victims were students.

Students resumed their classes under the lockdown order as usual, and dismissal wasn't affected by the incident.

ALEXIS SACHDEV

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LAWSUIT

White TV anchor sacked for racial comments sues station

A newscaster fired three months ago for a racially insensitive Facebook post after a shooting is now suing her former employer, claiming she was terminated because she is white.

Wendy Bell, a former anchor for WTAE-TV in Pittsburgh, covered a March 9 mass shooting at a backyard barbecue that left four people dead and six injured in Wilkinsburg, a predominantly black borough just outside Pittsburgh.

Two weeks later, police had not yet released names or descriptions of suspects, nor had they made any arrests, but Bell took to her professional Facebook page alleging the crime had been carried out by young black men.

"You needn't be a criminal profiler to draw a mental sketch of the killers who broke so many hearts two weeks ago Wednesday," Bell wrote in the Facbook post that was later deleted. "... They are young black men, likely in their teens or in their early 20s. They have multiple siblings from multiple fathers and their mothers work multiple jobs. These boys have been in the system before. They've grown up there. They know the police. They've been arrested."

Wendy Bell FACEBOOK

Bell's comments immediately began circulating the internet, critics decrying the veteran journalist as being racist and demeaning, accusing her of having a white savior complex.

Two days later, Bell deleted her post. A week after that, the station fired its veteran anchor.

But Bell isn't going quietly.

On Monday, the former anchor's attorney filed a federal lawsuit on her behalf claiming that she was fired because she was white. If she was black, her post wouldn't have been seen as grounds for termination.

"Had an African-American journalist said the same thing, it wouldn't have generated the same quote-outcry-unquote," her attorney, Sam Cordes, told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review.

ALEXIS SACHDEV

Pa. teen who murdered woman at age 11 released

The mother of the late pregnant woman feels endangered by her daughter's murderer's discharge.

ARIELLE KAPLAN
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Seven years after allegedly murdering his father's pregnant fiancée, the now-18-year-old convicted killer has been released from juvenile custody in Pennsylvania.

Jordan Brown was accused of shooting Kenzie Houk in the back of her head while she was sleeping in February of 2009. Houk was eight months' pregnant with a boy when the fatal shot took both their lives. Brown left his soon-to-be stepsisters motherless, and his father Chris Brown without a partner.

But the teen's father doesn't blame his son for the murder. "I know he didn't do it. He says he didn't do it. He's always said he didn't do it," Brown told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Despite consistent denial, 11-year-old Jordan Brown was charged as a juvenile and ruled "delinquent," according to the New York Daily News, which is the juvenile court's code for guilty.

Brown was later allowed to move to a group home in Crawford County reportedly following excellent academic, obedient and social behavior. Brown graduated from Maplewood High School at the top of his class and was recognized for participating in athletics.

A judge ruled that the teen cannot live with his father and instead would

Jordan Brown PROVIDED

be released to his paternal great aunt and uncle in Boardman, Ohio, in Mahoning County before attending college at a university in Erie this fall, reports said. He will remain on parole until he's 21 and must stay out of Lawrence County until then.

Debbie Houk, 52, is a mother scorned by her late daughter's murder and avoided attending Brown's hearing in the Lawrence County courthouse when his release was announced.

"I couldn't stand to hear anything more about Jordan. Jordan this. Jordan that. It's always about Jordan. What about Kenzie? What about my daughter? What about Kenzie's daughters who don't have a mother. What about my grandson who wasn't even born?" she told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Houk reportedly plans on moving away from Mahoning County because it is too close to where Brown will reside before entering his freshman year of college. She hopes the move will prevent her granddaughters from accidentally running into their mother's murderer.

"You do what you've got to do," Houk told the Daily News. "Right now, I just don't feel safe. I can't help how I feel."

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Senate's gridlock on guns sparks protests in Philly

Republican Toomey voted against proposal to keep weapons out of hands of people on watch list.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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Protesters took to the streets outside Republican U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey's Center City offices Tuesday, blaming Toomey for the Senate's inaction Monday on four gun control bills.

Toomey, specifically, was bashed by protesters for his "no" vote on Sen. Dianne Feinstein's bill to ban people on the terrorist watch list from buying guns. He also voted against expanding background checks on gun purchases at gun shows and online.

"Toomey took a couple of unfortunate votes last night and there were a lot of people who were really upset and wanted to let him know," said David Scholnick, an organizer with Philly for Change, which led Tuesday's protest.

The bills were introduced after the mass shooting at a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida, in which a professed ISIS sympathizer killed 49 people and wounded more than 50 before dying in a shootout with police.

Toomey said the bills didn't provide enough room for due process, pointing to people who may mistakenly be on the terror watch list having no way to get their names removed.

He announced Tuesday that he will support Maine Republican U.S. Sen. Susan Collins' revised version of a bill to prevent people on the Terror Watch List, also known as the No Fly List, from obtaining guns.

"We must do everything we can to keep guns away from terrorists, while also safeguarding Americans' constitutional rights. Sen. Collins' proposal balances both of those essential goals well," Toomey said in a statement regarding the legislation, referred to as a "No-Fly-No-Buy" bill.

But the activists still aren't impressed.

"Pat Toomey talks a big game about being a moderate. But he hasn't done anything good on this issue in over three years," Scholnick said. "And now, when he's up for re-election, to start making videos and putting out press releases and talking to the media as if he's some sort of a hero here is disingenuous, when he has voted in lockstep with the NRA and the Republican Party on vote after vote."

White House press secretary Josh Earnest decried the Senate's lack of action on gun control legislation Tuesday, calling it "shameful display of cowardice."

Four gun legislation bills all stalled on Monday as the Orlando shooting on June 12 that saw 49 killed and 53 wounded at a gay nightclub brought increasing public pressure on Congress to enact new gun legislation.

"The Senate defaulted on its basic obligation to keep America safe," Sen. Bob Casey (D-Pa.) said after no bills passed on Monday. Some in the U.S. Senate believe that there's nothing our nation, the most powerful in the world, can do to confront gun violence, which killed 33,646 Americans in 2014, but enforce existing law. I refuse to accept that."

Additional reporting by Reuters

Several dozen gun-control advocates protested outside U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey's office in Center City to denounce the senator for voting against two gun-control bills this week. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

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Obama: US senators 'failed the American people' on gun control

Democrats' efforts to pass a broader prohibition failed.

The White House accused U.S. senators of a "shameful display of cowardice" on Tuesday and said they failed the American people by not advancing any gun control measures after the nation's largest mass shooting in Orlando, Florida, last week.

"Gun violence requires more than moments of silence," President Barack Obama said on Twitter. "It requires action. In failing that test, the Senate failed the American people."

Earlier, White House spokesman Josh Earnest appeared on morning television news shows excoriating the Senate for rejecting on Monday four gun bills aimed at keeping firearms away from people with suspected ties to militants.

"What we saw last night on the floor of the United States Senate was a shameful display of cowardice," Earnest said on MSNBC.

After Monday's votes, the Senate turned away from gun control, at least temporarily, to debate a different tactic for battling domestic attacks that could be inspired by Islamic State and other foreign militant groups.

Senators were aiming to vote by Wednesday on legislation by Sen. John McCain of Arizona expanding the Federal Bureau of Investigation's ability to conduct secret surveillance in counter-terrorism investigations.

"This week we'll have the opportunity to strengthen our ability to combat lone wolf terrorists and connect the dots so we are better able to prevent terrorist attacks in the United States" such as the Orlando massacre, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said.

Republican Sen. Susan Collins of Maine was trying to keep gun control attempts alive. She was expected on Tuesday to introduce a measure that would curb weapons sales to people on a narrow terrorism watch list.

It was not yet clear whether Collins' plan would draw significant bipartisan support or whether McConnell would even schedule a vote on her legislation, which likely would draw opposition from the National Rifle Association, a close ally of many Republican lawmakers.

The NRA has worked hard to defeat gun control measures, including attempts in the wake of mass shootings such as the one in Orlando.

Gun control groups, meanwhile, promised to intensify their push for legislative action, but not just in Washington.

Shannon Watts, founder of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, said her group, besides supporting pro-gun control candidates for the U.S. Congress, would work to strengthen gun sale background check laws "state by state until Congress acts," states including Maine and Nevada.

"If the NRA and their lapdogs in the Senate thought moms would feel dispirited and back down they are sorely mistaken," Watts told reporters in a teleconference. REUTERS

Activists protest at the entrance of the National Rifle Association on Tuesday in Fairfax, Virginia, to honor the 49 people recently killed at the Pulse nightclub, in Orlando, Florida, and calling for a ban on assult weapons. REUTERS

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Trump shrugs off campaign funding lag, citing personal wealth

Donald Trump REUTERS

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump dismissed a huge fundraising gap between him and Democratic rival Hillary Clinton on Tuesday, saying he could always tap into his personal wealth if he needed more cash for the campaign.

The New York real estate magnate lagged far behind Clinton in the campaign money stakes in May, raising only $3.1 million to her $26 million, according to federal disclosures filed late on Monday. Trump's campaign began June with $1.29 million in cash, well-behind Clinton's $42 million war chest.

The figures underscore the huge cash advantage Clinton is hoping to enjoy leading into the Nov. 8 presidential election, one that could allow her a large staff and millions of dollars of television and digital ads in battleground states.

But Trump has spent much of the race so far breaking the mold of a traditional campaign, defeating a crowded field of primary opponents who vastly outspent him in ads and staff.

"If need be, there could be unlimited 'cash on hand' as I would put up my own money," Trump said in a statement, adding that he had already spent over $50 million on his bid for the White House. "Our campaign is leaner and more efficient, like our government should be."

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BRIEF

Clinton warns of a 'Trump recession' in speech on economy
Democrat Hillary Clinton said on Tuesday that if Republican rival Donald Trump wins the White House, it will be a disaster for the nation's economy, warning that "the king of debt" would cause a "Trump recession."

"Now I don't say this because of typical political disagreements — liberals and conservatives say Trump's ideas would be disastrous," Clinton said. "Economists on the right, the left and the center all agree Trump would throw us back into recession."

Clinton's speech in Columbus, Ohio, was the second in which she has argued the wealthy businessman is "temperamentally unfit" to lead the country. The first was on foreign relations and national security.

She said Trump's tax plan would benefit the rich over working families, that his promise to toss out trade deals would lead to trade wars, and criticized his business credentials.

"Donald Trump has said he is qualified to be president because of his business record," Clinton said.

"So let's take a look at what he did for his businesses: He's written a lot of books about business. They all seem to end at Chapter 11; go figure," Clinton said, in a jab referring to Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code.
REUTERS

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Justice Dept. opposes new Obama proposal on Gitmo

Obama has vowed to close the prison on his watch. But while he has overseen the release of some 160 men from the prison, the facility still holds 80 detainees.

A detainee walks through the recreation yard at the detention center for "enemy combatants" in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. GETTY IMAGES

President Barack Obama is again facing dissent from within his administration — this time from Attorney General Loretta Lynch — over his plans to shutter the Guantanamo Bay military prison, according to senior administration officials.

Lynch, a former federal prosecutor whom Obama appointed to head the Justice Department two years ago, is opposing a White House-backed proposal that would allow Guantanamo Bay prisoners to plead guilty to terrorism charges in federal court by videoconference, the officials said.

Over the past three months, Lynch has twice intervened to block administration proposals on the issue, objecting that they would violate long-standing rules of criminal-justice procedure.

In the first case, her last-minute opposition derailed a White House-initiated legislative proposal to allow video guilty pleas after nearly two months of interagency negotiations and law drafting. In the second case, Lynch blocked the administration from publicly supporting a Senate proposal to legalize video guilty pleas.

White House officials confirmed that President Obama supports the proposal. But the president declined to overrule objections from Lynch, the administration's top law-enforcement official.

"There were some frustrations," said a White House official who spoke on condition of anonymity. "The top lawyer in the land has weighed in, and that was the DOJ's purview to do that."

If enacted into law, the Obama-backed plan would allow detained terrorism suspects who plead guilty to serve their sentences in a third-country prison, without setting foot on U.S. soil. The plan would thus sidestep a congressional ban on transferring detainees to the United States, which has left dozens of prisoners in long-term judicial limbo in Guantanamo, the American military enclave in Cuba.

The video plea plan has broad backing within the administration, including from senior State Department and Pentagon officials. A Defense Department spokesman declined to comment.
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US unveils new rules on small, low-altitude drones

The White House says unmanned aircraft could lead to $82 billion in economic growth by 2025 and support up to 100,000 jobs. GETTY IMAGES

The Obama administration unveiled landmark rules on Tuesday that will open the skies for low-level small drones for education and research purposes, but unmanned commercial aircraft deliveries from companies like Amazon.com and Alphabet Inc. will require separate regulation.

The head of the Federal Aviation Administration, Michael Huerta, declined to offer a timetable on when those separate rules would be written. Until now, commercial drone operations had been illegal in the United States without specific FAA permission.

Drone flights will be approved for agriculture, research and development, educational and academic use, as well as powerline, pipeline and antenna inspections. They also include aiding certain rescue operations, bridge inspections, aerial photography and wildlife nesting area evaluations.

The new rules that take effect in late August allow drones that weigh less than 55 pounds and fly up to 400 feet high and 100 mph, but only within sight of an operator and not over people.

Drones will not be allowed to fly at night unless they have special lighting and must stay at least five miles away from airports.

Operators must be at least 16 and have a remote pilot certificate and must report to the FAA of any drone that results in serious injuries or property damage.

"As this new technology continues to grow and develop, we want to make sure we strike the right balance between innovation and safety," said Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx on a call with reporters.

The rules may still boost drone manufacturers such as SZ DJI Technology Co. and PrecisionHawk.

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Yikes: Iggy Azalea kicks Nick Young's stuff to the curb

It's safe to say that Lakers point guard Nick Young and Australian rapper Iggy Azalea have officially called off their wedding. But at least the rapper didn't tattoo his name on her fingers this time, like she did with her ex-boyfriend A$AP Rocky.

So here's a recap: Young's teammate D'Angelo Russell leaked a very personal clip on YouTube. The video featured Young confessing to cheating on Azalea with another woman. We're guessing that Russell and Young aren't on the best of terms.

The "Black Widow" singer has responded to numerous fans on Twitter regarding the scandal. Some fans even tweeted that they have more evidence of Young cheating, but they're holding off on releasing it.

A couple months ago, Azalea responded to fan @Drowningforiggy who tweeted, "I'll call a U-Haul and we can have his s*** outta there in 10 min...just say the words boo!" Azalea's reply was polite, yet thankful, "lol, errrr...nick and i are good babe."

As of this morning, Iggy Igz took her fan's advice and decided to clean out her closet, or, rather, Young's closet, removing chairs, a bike and several boxes from her Los Angeles home and relocating them to the driveway. She even had her ex-fiance's car — a 1962 blue Chevy Impala she bought for him for Christmas — towed away.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

the word

John Legend and Chrissy Teigen just being adorable

John Legend and Chrissy Teigen are at it again! After the Senate rejected four gun-control laws Monday night, the couple took to their usual soapbox on Twitter.

Legend urged fans to vote in November and showed no signs of backing down when followers began to criticize.

JOHN LEGEND/INSTAGRAM

Vocal Trump-hater Teigen poked fun at the GOP by tweeting, "@johnlegend no john. My right to own 7 AR-15's is more important than your "COMFORT"" used 2 respect u! Stick to music unfollow#."

After a heated back and forth debate, a fan asked if the two were next to each other while it was happening. To which the couple responded, "maybe" and posted this photo. Guess a couple that tweets together stays together?

Beyonce shows off family vacay

Beyonce is not done showing us how to turn lemons into lemonade. Queen Bey, Jay Z and the heiress of American pop culture, 4-year-old Blue Ivy, started summer with a vacation to Hawaii, sharing the perfect #summergoals images on beyonce.com.

While we've been busy wildly speculating on "Lemonade"-inspired relationship drama, Beyonce has clearly been righting her kingdom with summer crowns (of flowers and lemons, of course) and beachside strolls in parade.

That's the literal paradise of Hawaii, and the figurative one of her family — it's significant that many of the shots portray a happy family, include Blue, whom the couple have zealously shielded until now. "What drama?" the images say. "Life is what you make it." Take notes, people.

BEYONCE/INSTAGRAM

Selma Blair has midflight meltdown, hospitalized

Actress Selma Blair was en route from Cancun, Mexico, to Los Angeles with her 4-year-old son, Arthur Saint, and his father, Jason Bleick, Monday when she began to behave erratically. Sources from the flight told TMZ the 43-year-old actress began to cry and say, "He burns my private parts. He won't let me eat or drink. He beats me. He's going to kill me."

Witnesses told the website that Blair was drinking wine in first class and flight staff searched her bag for any medications she may have mixed. People Magazine's sources said it appeared that Blair had taken an unknown "combination of prescription medication with alcohol." Blair had been on vacation with ex-boyfriend Bleick and their son to celebrate Father's Day at the Hard Rock Hotel Riviera Maya. Sources for Us Weekly said the "American Crime Story" star "seemed happy and healthy all weekend." The actress was removed from the flight, which was met by paramedics at LAX, and taken to an area hospital.

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Stephen Starr is shifting gears

Mousse au Chocolat at Le Coucou CORRY ARNOLD

The Philly-made restaurateur reflects on 10 years in NYC.

A.D. AMOROSI
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

When Stephen Starr opened Le Coucou in SoHo last week, the restaurateur wasn't just celebrating French cuisine with the homecoming of chef Daniel Rose, the American darling of Parisian fine dining.

The Philadelphia-based Starr — a master of cinematic eateries and the bombastic cuisine to match — is also commemorating his 10th anniversary of opening restaurants in New York City. "This place is also my home," says Starr of NYC.

The classic French restaurant, serving dishes like pike quenelle, oysters in seaweed butter and whole rabbit, is Starr's sixth in the city following Morimoto, Buddakan, The Clocktower, El Vez and Upland — no introduction needed for any of them. Though already a success as the man who launched Philadelphia's 1990s restaurant renaissance, Starr says that back in 2006, "I don't think that I knew that I was ready to make the transition from Philly to New York City."

It all came down to timing as then-rising star Masaharu Morimoto — the onetime executive chef at Nobu — had NYC's attention on "Iron Chef" and was ready to make his move into having his own restaurant. "Morimoto gave me the confidence to do something that New York City would embrace because he was a star."

In the process of locking down the Chelsea Market location for Morimoto NYC, Starr happened onto another large empty space, the former Nabisco Cookie Co., "which was fantastic," he recalls. Starr took the chance that Morimoto would do well and bankrolled the second space as Buddakan, both in the then-unproven Meatpacking District.

Starr won't take credit for turning the area into a hotspot (he cedes that to Pastis, opened by Keith McNally in 1999). Yet, what he did was open two large, distinctive spaces in that area, "the biggest risks ever to have been undertaken at that time; those restaurants wound up costing $30 million." Starr laughs. "I didn't even have half of that money to put down, so we were really gambling."

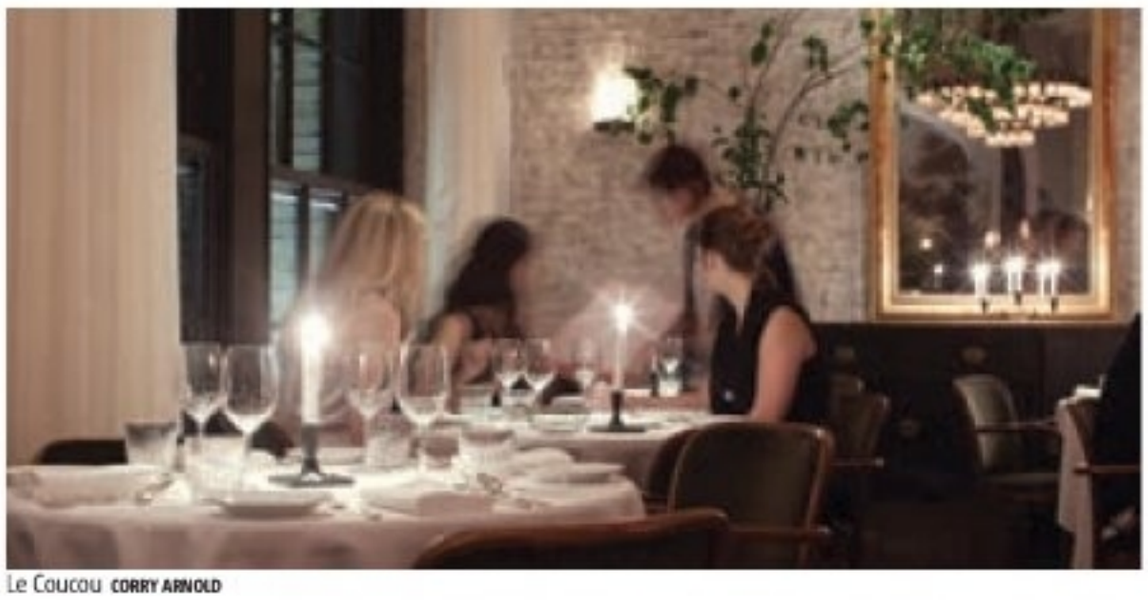
Stephen Starr GETTY IMAGES

Those grand Japanese-themed gambles paid off, and Starr continued to open restaurants big and small, highly stylized and more humbly designed, complex and simple in terms of cuisine. Take El Vez, the casual contemporary Mexican restaurant he opened at 259 Vesey St. in 2014, far warmer and modest than his British-themed The Clocktower, which Starr placed in Ian Schrager's New York Edition Hotel in 2015.

"'Theatrical' wasn't a word or concept that was around when I started making restaurants, so I did it," says Starr, who has long been enamored of Schrager's keen sense for pop culture trends and hospitality. "Now we're more restrained in our design because baby boomers are older and millennials have a different set of standards. Still, expectation makes it so every restaurant I do — the next one — has to be more special than the last. You have to move forward or audiences get bored. I get bored."

This brings Starr to Le Coucou in the new Howard Hotel at 138 Lafayette St., the one-time Holiday Inn ("I nearly bought it as I loved the location in one of the then-grittier parts of town — bordering Chinatown — which reminds me of what old New York City was"). Then there's Daniel Rose, the New York chef who's come home from his celebrated time at Paris' La Bourse et La Vie. "It is deeply personal to him," Starr explains. "He's on the line cooking: ingredient-based, not heavy technique, not nine courses but three courses and dessert. It's like his house. He'll bring plates out. He's charming."

Charming is a good term for Starr, too. He may have been defined by Philadelphia, but these 10 years in New York City have been his training camp. "I was able to come to New York confidentially — well, not that confidentially — and make what I do better," he says. "Look, the difference between Philly and New York is 90 miles. Save for diversity and wealth, the people are much the same."



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The stars of 'Delco Proper' give us a tour of their hometown

There's so much to see in this corner of suburbia.

MIKE FENN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

What started out as a raunchy web series is about to launch three Philadelphia-area comedians — as well as an entire county — into the national spotlight.

"Delco Proper," the brainchild Tommy Pope, Tim Butterly and John McKeever, "shows how [the main characters], who are just breaching into their 30s, deal with living in the same neighborhood, changing relationships and just basically being a grownup," Pope says.

Pope, a native of Drexel Hill, chose Delaware County, or "Delco" as it is commonly known, for its rarely-changing, yet genuine, landscape.

"In a lot of these small towns, there's sort of an arrested development, where people really don't start growing up until they either have kids, start getting married or a business is dropped on them."

Thanks to Comedy Central, the collective vision of Pope, Butterly and McKeever has expanded far beyond the scope of greater Philadelphia. The trio's first episode, "The Funeral," amassed over 125,000 views on YouTube and paved the way for three more webisodes on the comedy network's YouTube channel.

With the cast's Delco roots, we had to ask the funny friends to take us on a tour of their favorite local hangouts. Here's where you can find them:

ALL PHOTOS JENNIFER LOGUE

Charlie's Hamburgers

Charlie's Hamburgers is a small hamburger stand in Folsom, Pennsylvania. Despite its unimpressive location behind a CVS and a tavern, the stand nevertheless reached its own level of notoriety when it was voted one of the "10 Best Fast Food Places" by Esquire Magazine in 2009. "It reminds me of the way your dad would assemble a burger," Pope says. "I'm sick of going out and paying twenty bucks for a burger," adds Butterly. "Have someone named Bernadette just throw it on a grill and let me eat 10 of them for nine dollars!"

Polish-American Club

Deep in Clifton Heights, the members-only Polish Americans Citizens Association might seem like little more than a darkened basement bar where area residents come to sip beer and watch the game. However, the establishment, of which Pope and his brothers have been longtime members, also earned its place in "Delco Proper" infamy as the setting of the series' episode "For the Troops." "There's few places in neighborhoods like that where you can find a place that hasn't changed in years," McKeever observed. "The whole point of our show was that you have this group of dudes who have a hard time changing who they are because the town never changes," says Butterly. "And places like VFWs are indicative of that mentality." While playing an intense game of shuffleboard, two "Delco Proper" fans snapped pictures with the gang and even played a game of pool with them.

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Wawa

It's no secret that Wawa is the lifeblood of the Philadelphia area. Entire communities cram themselves into these convenience stores for coffee, freshly-made sandwiches and, of course, gasoline. "It's a staple in the community because it's accessible from every corner," says Pope. "It's only ours," Butterly adds. "We like Wawa, don't change it, gimme a meatball sandwich."
The store at the corner of Burmont and Garrett Roads in Drexel Hill is where the comedians go for apple fritters, string cheese and iced tea.

Putt-Putt Golf N Games

Tucked away in the back of a shopping center in Clifton Heights is Putt Putt Golf N Games. Under the watchful gaze of an almost obtrusive cellphone tower, golfers of all ages and skill levels make lifetime memories as they tap colorful balls into the holes of several obstacle-laden courses. While Pope won a game against Butterly and McKeever, the emotional highlight of the visit was when Butterly was able to recreate a childhood photo of his, taken at the very same course. "If you look at Tim's photograph, all they did was paint the back wall, and it's been 30 years," Pope says.

So, what's next for "Delco Proper"? Well, Comedy Central enjoyed the web series so much that it felt that a regular TV series, half-hour episodes and all, might be the next addition to its lineup of original programming, alongside shows like "Workaholics" and "Broad City."

"Comedy Central bought a pilot from us, so we're writing the script now, and then they make a decision as to whether or not the script gets filmed, and then it goes to series," Pope explains. He went on to say that he, Butterly and McKeever certainly hadn't forgotten their Philly-area roots; their crew comprises of local area talent that will only grow in size as the series does.

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With “Man About Town,” Mayer Hawthorne takes a succinct hold on his style.

RACHEL RACZKA
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PROVIDED

Just look at Mayer Hawthorne. Just look at him. The man evokes another era, and not in the kitschy crooner way a la Robin Thicke, or the genre-dominating Michael Buble. Then listen to him. Confused?

Hawthorne’s self-produced fourth studio album, “Man About Town,” dropped in early April from Vagrant Records, and it electrifies his smooth neo-soul sound with ’70s and ’80s synths and funk. He chats about his new record, his evolving style and where he gets his stellar hats.

Important things first: Let’s talk about your slick hat collection. Where are they coming from and who is making them for you?

I get them from all over the world. Maison Michel in Paris puts a little “M” on the band, so you know I love that. My favorites right now are from Laird in London. They’re making some custom ones for me. Gladys Tamez is making incredible hats in L.A. also. I want one from her!

On a similar note, at one point did you decide to develop a “look” or an “image” as a musician? How important was this for you and what does it mean today?

I’d say it’s more of a motto than a particular look. Flashy, but classy. I get it from my grandma Rita. I think the most important thing is to have your own unique style. Wear clothes that you’re comfortable in, but don’t be afraid to take some chances. If you don’t have some old photos that you look at and say “Holy s—! What was I doing?” then you aren’t living!

Songs like “Cosmic Love,” “Fancy Clothes” and “Love Like That” evoke a different retro vibe than you’ve had with prior. What decade are you paying homage to?

I don’t ever think like that when I’m making music. I just make what I feel. I grew up in the ’80s and ’90s, listening to Public Enemy, The Police, Smashing Pumpkins … I discovered Steely Dan and Barry White later on. It all goes into my music, but I don’t really think about it when I’m writing. I’m all about making new music for right now, so hopefully that comes through, as well as my influences.

What periods of your life do “Where Does This Go” versus “Man About Town” represent?

“Where Does This Go” was a crazy transition for me, working with other producers and writers for the first time and a major label. I learned so much from that, but it was a bit scary.

“Man About Town” really deals with my search for love in Los Angeles — being surrounded by millions of people all the time but still feeling that loneliness. It’s a somewhat satirical title. Lyrically it’s a very melancholy record, but I still wanted people to party to it, so I tried to keep the music fun.

“Man About Town” is a super tight album — musically and literally, play-timewise. What was the decision-making process behind keeping it short?

I recorded a lot more songs but, in the end, I wanted it to fit on a single vinyl record. Most of my favorite albums — Prince’s “Dirty Mind,” Michael Jackson’s “Off The Wall,” Steely Dan’s “Aja,” Nas’ “Illmatic” — they all have nine or 10 songs. All killer, no filler. It takes you into my head like “Being John Malkovich,” gives you an unforgettable experience and then dumps you out on the side of the freeway, wanting more.

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Dermot Mulroney makes sweet music

The actor talks about the Nick Jonas thriller "Careful What You Wish For" and being a pro cellist.

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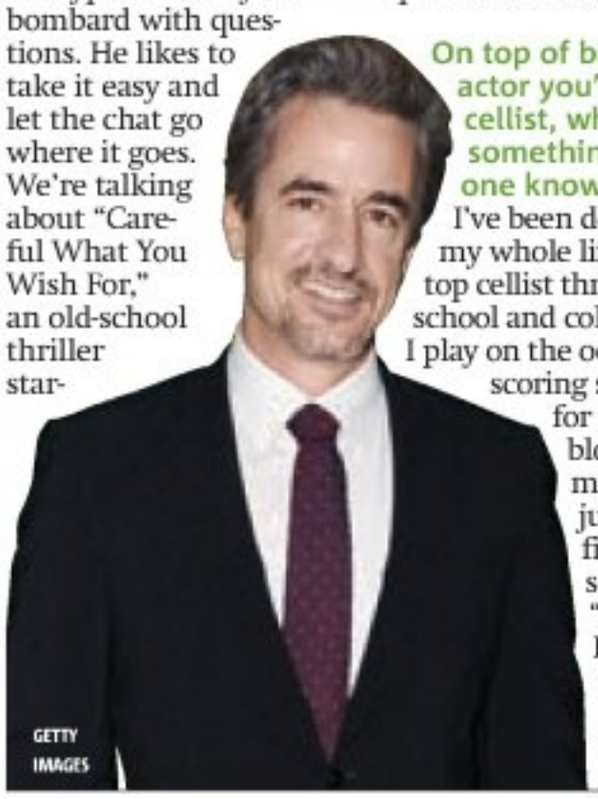
Dermot Mulroney isn't the type of actor you bombard with questions. He likes to take it easy and let the chat go where it goes. We're talking about "Careful What You Wish For," an old-school thriller starring Nick Jonas as a kid who gets involved with a femme fatale (Isabel Lucas), who has a wealthy, abusive husband (played by Mulroney). But it takes us and the "My Best Friend's Wedding" alum awhile to get there, as we end up talking about, among other things, his sideline as a professional cellist.



GETTY IMAGES

On top of being an actor you're also a cellist, which is not something everyone knows.

I've been doing that my whole life. I was a top cellist through high school and college. Now I play on the occasional scoring session for these big blockbuster movies. I just did a five-day session on "Star Trek Beyond." How bizarre is that?

Dermot Mulroney plays a wealthy man married to a femme fatale (Isabel Lucas) in "Careful What You Wish For." STARZ

It must be strange to be on that side of movies.

It's its own world. Underappreciated. It's this process of writing, arranging and orchestrating beautiful music. It's all brand-new sounding. No one's ever played it before. And I'm sitting there with the best cellists, these award-winning brass players, and get to work with them at my skill level, which is merely sufficient. I definitely don't stand out. [Laughs]

And there you are, someone whose name is in the opening credits of movies in which you acted.

You don't get a lot of people patting you on the back, saying, "Great job, man! That take was perfect!" like they do on movie sets. I'm like the No. 11 cellist. Those guys don't get a lot of glory. [Laughs] I have an incredible amount of respect for people who've learned to play a musical instrument, all the practicing. Even a really expert actor might not have practiced as much as a French horn player. That's about the hardest instrument to play.

You get to do both on "Mozart in the Jungle." You popped up on the second season and are coming back for the third. When did they realize you play the cello on top of acting?

I've known Jason [Schwartzman, one of the creators] since he was a teenager. They knew I could play — not that they ever heard me in person. During the first season they had a post-it on the wall that read, "Dermot cello." So by the time the show was a success, they roped me in.

On Nick Jonas

"Careful What You Wish For" features another musician-actor, Nick Jonas. Mulroney is a fan. "He has incredible talent pouring out of him, and not just musically," he says. "I had such a great time working on this movie. It's an old-school thriller that's hard to come by these days. Like any good movie, it's hard to make."

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Mike Holmes of 'Home Free' tells us the most important part of a home

Mike Holmes supervises a contestant FOX

The TV host and construction expert has 'built' a life doing what he loves most.

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If you're a fan of home renovation and construction, chances are you're already familiar with Mike Holmes, star of the shows "Holmes on Homes" as well as "Home Free," which kicked off its second season on Fox last week. We chatted with the renowned contractor about his early beginnings in construction, how he landed in television and what makes a house a home.

Do you remember the first thing you ever built?
I did electrical when I was 6 years old. I rewired the whole second floor of the house under my dad's supervision. By the time I was 12, I had completed my first basement — electrical, plumbing and complete finish, including stairs. He would tell everyone, "Hire my son, I'm too busy!"

What inspired you to go into construction professionally?
By the time I was 19, I was offered a lot of money to run a big construction company as well as a job with the TTC, which was the Toronto Transit at the time. I picked construction because it was where my heart was at, and clearly it was the smartest thing I ever did. I love what I do and have been building ever since.

How did you land in television?
That was an accident. I'm not a TV guy. I met someone at HGTV one day, maybe 17 years ago. I was fascinated by what they were doing. They hired me to do work within the tool room, which I designed a whole tool shop, and did it. Then he wanted me to make a custom straw bale home. I'm sitting in his office going over the plans, telling him what he needs to do and he wasn't listening. He was hell bent on doing it his way and I got excited, saying, "This reminds me about the shows on your channel, and they're all full of crap." The veins were popping, I started giving him crap for 30 minutes straight about how every single show was stupid and this is the type of show they needed. Then as I was leaving he jumps up and says, "We want a pilot right away." I laughed and said no. But you know how he convinced me?

Mike Holmes FOX

home

How?
He goes, "Mike, I notice you like to teach one family at a time. How would you like to teach everyone at once?" And I said, "You S.O.B." He got me. Right then and there I said, "I own the show or I won't do it." I won't be anyone's puppet. He says that shouldn't be a problem.

The new season of "Home Free" just kicked off. What's different this time around?
This time, the cat's out of the bag. You can't win a home for yourself, you win it for your hero. Imagine coming to a job site, working your butt off 24/7 to win your hero a home? That excited them and it didn't stop them. They were on a mission to do their best for their hero and never give up. These people pushed themselves beyond their limits and you see it on the show.

What was the most challenging day of building?
Probably the first week because none of them knew anything. Many of them didn't know how to swing a hammer! It was painful for me but, bit-by-bit, they listened and learned and got better and better. As the competition continued, they became, in a way, like my kids and I got to be so proud of them.

This is called "Home Free." What makes a house a home?
It's the people who live there. We gotta get back to understanding one thing: Never take advantage of your home. It is the roof over your head and the children who live in it. Make sure you know how to keep it sound, safe and healthy for your family.

"Home Free" airs Thursday nights at 9 p.m. on Fox.

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Inside Look: 4 swoon-worthy shorefront homes

Your weekly dose of #RealEstatePorn.

ALEXIS SACHDEV
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We love city life, but that weekly commute down the Shore is getting us down. Picture this: white-washed decks looking out on pristine beaches, watching sunsets during al fresco dinners, and setting sail off your private dock every weekend, without the traffic headache.

Summer's here, and we're boardwalk dreaming. Check out these four shorefront properties for sale we think are just beachy.

712 Morven Terrace, Sea Girt, New Jersey

Holy. Cannoli. Seven bedrooms, eight bathrooms and impressive panoramic views in every room — except the maid's quarters — puts this modern beauty at the top of our list. For a cool **$8.2 million**, live the life of luxury in this one-of-a-kind home, complete with a full glass elevator to all four floors, an indoor heated infinity pool, heated floors, and a built-in wine cooler and espresso machine. Just steps from Sea Girt's sparkling shoreline, you'll never want to leave.

279 Bayshore Drive, Ocean City, New Jersey

"Impressive" doesn't begin to describe this Victorian-style five-bedroom, six-and-a-half-bathroom mansion. The **$5 million** bayfront property features a gourmet kitchen with Sub Zero, Dacor and Viking appliances and a breakfast bar, cherry hardwood floors, a fully equipped gym with a steam shower and separate sauna, heated floors, and a bayside deck and dock.

712 Morven Terrace, Sea Girt, New Jersey

279 Bayshore Drive, Ocean City

530 Ocean Terrace, Mantoloking, New Jersey ALL PHOTOS ZILLOW

530 Ocean Terrace, Mantoloking, New Jersey

Newly built oceanfront home seeks first residents to take in sweeping Atlantic views. For **$3.4 million**, this five-bedroom, five-bathroom, four-story home boasts expansive space and classic shorefront style. The master bedroom features a walk-in closet, gas fireplace, dressing area, private balcony and connected bathroom, and the home's exterior has a multi-tiered deck overlooking the ocean. There is a steel wall protecting the home on the ocean side.

84 Bayview Drive, Long Beach Township, New Jersey

If Victorians and Cape Cods aren't your style, opt for this gorgeous modern space featuring 126 feet of bay frontage in Loveladies. Relax inside in one of four bedrooms with sweeping panoramic bayfront views, or the custom kitchen with high-end appliances and a bar. Or head outside to the **$3.495 million** home's in-ground pool, outdoor bar and grill area or grade-level docking.

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Phillies' Moniak born to play baseball

The Phillies officially announced they had signed the 2016 MLB Draft's first overall pick Tuesday.

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The Phillies' latest hopes rest on optimistic, enthusiastic Mickey Moniak as he heads to the minors this week. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Bill Moniak, the grandfather to the Phillies' No. 1 overall pick, recalls driving in his car with his then 2-year-old grandson listening to whatever baseball game was on the radio, during which Mickey Moniak would mumble out the words "baseball, baseball, baseball."

Imagine that, a 24-month-old boy already showing his first interest in a child's game that will now become his career.

"Mickey has always been special," his grandfather said. "If there was anyone ever born to play the game, that little kid [was]."

The 18-year-old Moniak was officially introduced by the Phillies on Tuesday after signing a contract the day before. He will head down to Clearwater where he will get set for the Gulf Coast League.

The Phillies, too, believe Moniak was born to play the game and are eager to see what his future holds. It's only been about two weeks since the Phillies selected California's La Costa Canyon High School product, but the organization has already seen the reason they selected him.

"He's everything our scouts reported," said Johnny Almarez, the team's director of amateur scouting. "He's very intelligent, a tremendous baseball player, but more than anything, he's a very high-character person."

Many of those skills can be traced back to his lineage. Both his grandfather and father played professional baseball, and while he says he never was pushed to play baseball, Moniak has been fed a ton of advice growing up.

He considers that an advantage as he embarks on the minor leagues.

"You're not going to know everything by yourself," Moniak said. "I definitely wouldn't be the baseball player I am today without my grandpa or my parents."

In regards to being born to play baseball, the outfielder who batted .478 with 47 RBIs this past season says his father actually suggested he play basketball just so he could take a breather from the rigors of baseball 24/7.

Moniak took his dad's advice for a little while before turning into baseball mode all year-round once high school started.

"There was never any pressure," Moniak said. "I just grew up around [baseball]. We would play wiffle ball in the backyard. It was always baseball. I never wanted to do anything else."

Perhaps that's why his baseball IQ has been said to be off the charts, drawing comparisons to some of the top outfielders with names like Christian Yelich, Jacoby Ellsbury and — maybe a bit over-the-top — Mike Trout.

"It's something I definitely developed," Moniak said. "I like to study the game and see what guys do on the field and what helps them succeed. I think the term 'baseball IQ' is instincts and developing them for what's going on in a game."

The Phillies, it seems, found a gem in Moniak, but above all else, they made a dream come true for that once-2-year-old child in his grandfather's backseat who seemed to be born to be where he is today.

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Eagles' Carson Wentz loves the deep ball

Carson Wentz went deep frequently in college. CHARLES MOSTOLLER

Eagles fans love when their quarterbacks go deep.

It doesn't take too much combing through Philly sports memories to recall Donovan McNabb or Michael Vick airing it out to DeSean Jackson or Jeremy Maclin back when the Birds were one of the biggest deep-ball threats in football. Soon enough, when rookie Carson Wentz learns how to be an NFL quarterback and takes over for veteran Sam Bradford, those days could return.

The key is knowing when it's appropriate to air it out.

"I think there's a fine line," Wentz told the media during Eagles' minicamp. "There's a time to be aggressive. That's something I like to bring, throw the ball down the field when it's there, but there's also a time to reel it in."

For Eagles head coach Doug Pederson, it's all about trusting his quarterback to make a good decision.

"It's part of learning the system," the coach said. "He has a natural ability to throw the ball down the field and that's what you like. You love the aggression. You want to be able to push it down the field. And some of it is by play design and some of it is just by sheer mistake. But man, I love seeing the ball go over the top at times."

"Part of it's my nature," he said. "You have to walk that fine line."

EVAN MACY

These four Phillies could be trade bait come July

The lowly Phillies don't have much to offer by way of veteran trade chips, but these four players come close.

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The Phillies hope Freddy Galvis starts hitting well enough to become trade bait in July. GETTY IMAGES

Just one month ago, the Phillies were the toast of Major League Baseball. The scrappy overachievers were within striking distance of the NL East summit, and contemplating buying at the trade deadline. Now, however, Philadelphia sits more than a dozen games back of Washington in the division. Reality is starting to set in for the upstart Phillies, and in all likelihood they will be sellers after the All-Star break. Here is a look at who Philadelphia is most likely to deal:

Freddy Galvis

MLB insider Jon Heyman speculated that a possible Galvis trade is on the horizon. This may come as a surprise to Philadelphia fans, who have seen Galvis become a staple at shortstop in the wake of Jimmy Rollins' departure. However, even Galvis' Gold Glove-caliber defense will not keep top prospect J.P. Crawford from supplanting him in the near future. The writing is on the wall, and Galvis' ability to play multiple positions will make him easy to trade. If general manager Matt Klentak can exchange Galvis for a young pitching prospect, he likely will.

Andres Blanco

Similarly, Heyman hears that Blanco may be another trade piece for Philadelphia. The journeyman infielder is 32, and in the last year of his current deal, so he will not bring back as much in a trade as Galvis, who is 26. But the Phillies could easily deal Blanco to a contending team starving for versatility. Blanco is a switch-hitter who has played at four different positions for the Phillies in 2016, and hit .292 with seven home-runs, and 25 RBI just a season ago. In the MLB today, positional flexibility is a desired commodity, and Philadelphia should capitalize on that.

Jeremy Hellickson

Hellickson has been viewed as trade bait by both the front office and the fan base ever since the Phillies dealt for him in the offseason. Both Hellickson and Charlie Morton were acquired in the hope that Philadelphia could use the two veteran right-handers until their young arms were ready, and ultimately flip them at the deadline. While Hellickson has struggled in his last two starts, the 29-year-old went six consecutive starts, between May 7 and June 4, without allowing more than three runs in a start. A reliable fifth starter is always marketable and Hellickson should be an easy sell despite his recent struggles.

Jeanmar Gomez

Unlike Hellickson, Gomez was not predicted to have such trade value. The 28-year-old had been mostly average in parts of six different seasons until this year. Gomez has emerged in 2016, with a 3.00 ERA and 19 saves, and that will benefit Philadelphia as playoff teams look to shore up the back of their bullpen. An effective reliever with one year of arbitration left makes for a perfect trade chip.

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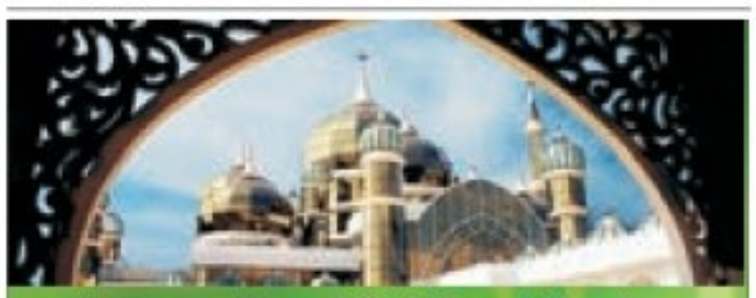
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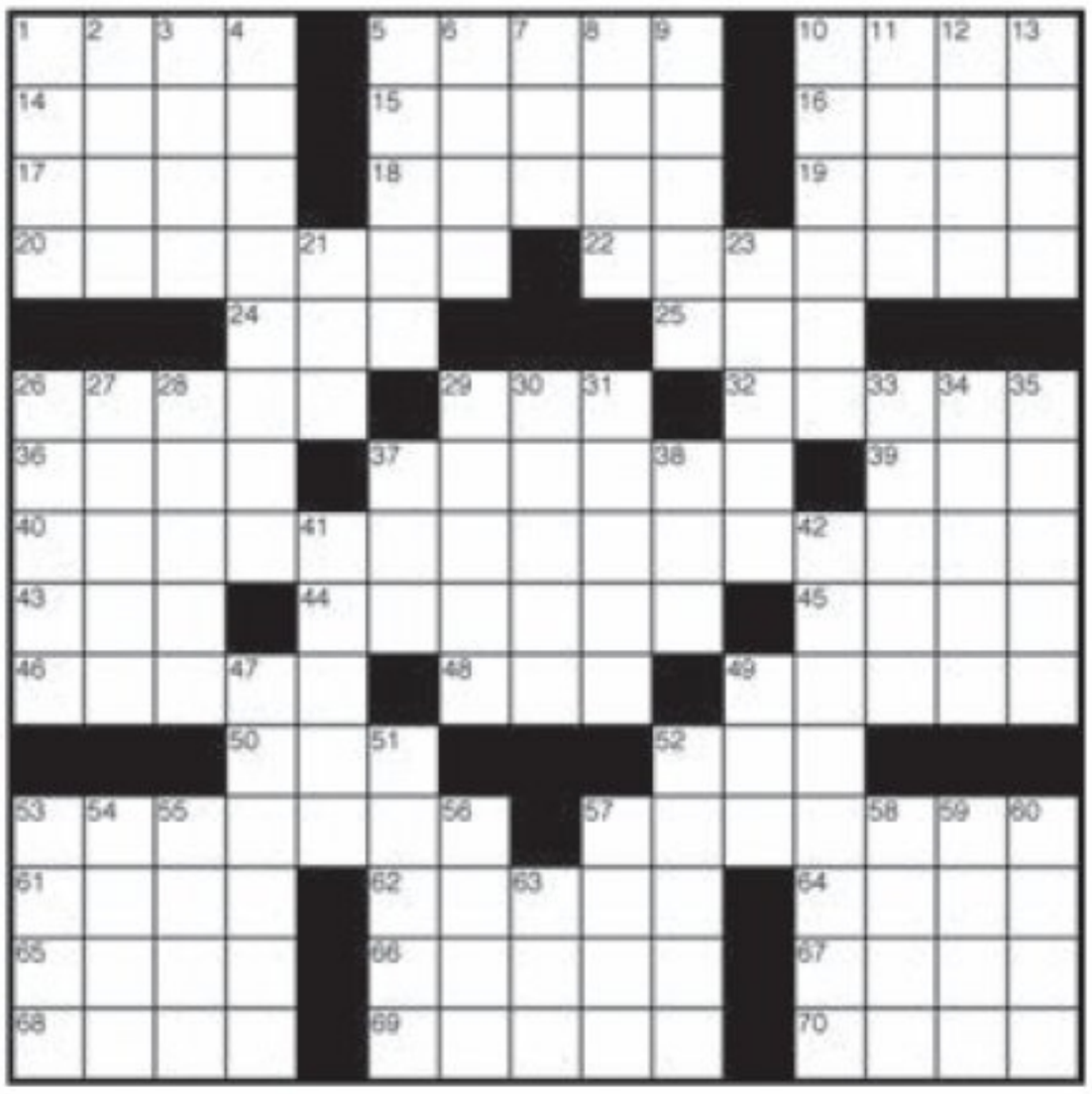

Across

1 Make flour finer
5 Wild party
10 "Fernando" group
14 Adams or McClurg
15 Birdie beater
16 Intuit
17 Teacher's roster
18 Meddle
19 Eleventh-hour
20 Pulled a scam
22 Make camp
24 Kind of instinct
25 Width of a cir.
26 Tight-knit team
29 Outshine
32 Toss here and there
36 Libretto feature
37 Police action
39 Ait, on the Seine
40 Atlantic menace? (2 wds.)
43 Shirt-pocket stain
44 Cheesy snacks
45 Term paper abbr.
46 Schnoz-related
48 Hither and —
49 It's unfathomable
50 Cameo role
52 Barbecue treat
53 Finite
57 Hit head-on
61 Sudden foray
62 Gambling mecca
64 Persia, nowadays
65 Give the eye
66 Stops up
67 Banned thing (hyph.)
68 Non-verbal OKs
69 Shangri-La site
70 Chew on

Down

1 Feudal worker
2 Goddess's statue
3 Dossier
4 Wire
5 Assail
6 Make shore
7 Way back when
8 No neatnik, this
9 Body temperature
10 Buoyant
11 Swain
12 — -carotene
13 He played Obi-Wan
21 Pool stick
23 Panoramic view
26 Hut
27 Ice hockey locale
28 Lairds' daggers
29 Hepburn and –
30 Lawn products brand
31 Argentine dictator
33 Beatles' "Eleanor"
34 Mystery writer — Peters
35 Uproots?
37 Town in Oklahoma
38 Mom's girl
41 Dark
42 Mouse activity
47 Stays a while
49 Call in sick
51 Lure
52 Perch
53 Hubbard of sci-fi (2 wds.)
54 Bard's villain
55 Springlike
56 Surrealist painter
57 Hamster's digs
58 Rust component
59 Elcar or Wynter
60 Sufficient, in verse
63 Young wolf

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easy

6			7			1		
				4	6	3	2	
					8	5		7
	3		6	7	2			
7								5
			3	1	5		9	
4		3	9					
	7	5	2	8				
		6			3			1

hard

			5		4	3		9
				1		2	5	
	4				2			
		5		8	7		3	2
2				5				1
4	8		1	2		9		
			7				2	
	2	4		9				
3		6	2		5			

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Taurus Take business seriously and leave no room for error. Financial gains look promising. A partnership will give you greater momentum to achieve the success you desire.

Gemini Stop dreaming and start doing. Take the initiative to get your plans off the ground. Dealing with rules and regulations first will save you time and money later.

Cancer With a little shove, you'll discover a new direction that brings out your best qualities and skills. You should be proud of your accomplishments, and be sure to celebrate.

Leo Your ability to bring people together and make deals happen will put you in a good position. An interesting encounter with a loved one will lead to a better relationship.

Virgo Don't wait for someone else to make the first move. Take advantage of an opportunity before it's too late. Make plans for the future with confidence and enthusiasm.

Libra A competitive approach will show you mean business. You may come up against negativity, but if you let your intuition lead the way, you'll be hard to beat.

Scorpio Check out what everyone around you is doing and adapt their methods to fit your own needs. Your creative input will make others take notice. A romantic gesture will be well received.

Sagittarius Chase an adventure or look for something exciting to do. Embrace change, and don't worry if last-minute alterations are made. Follow your heart and live your dreams.

Capricorn Lead the way before someone else takes charge. A professional opportunity will entice you. Consider all the pros and cons before you make a move. Negotiate on your own behalf.

Aquarius Hard work, dedication and a diverse application of your skills will bring about positive changes to the way you earn your living. A responsible attitude will win support and favors.

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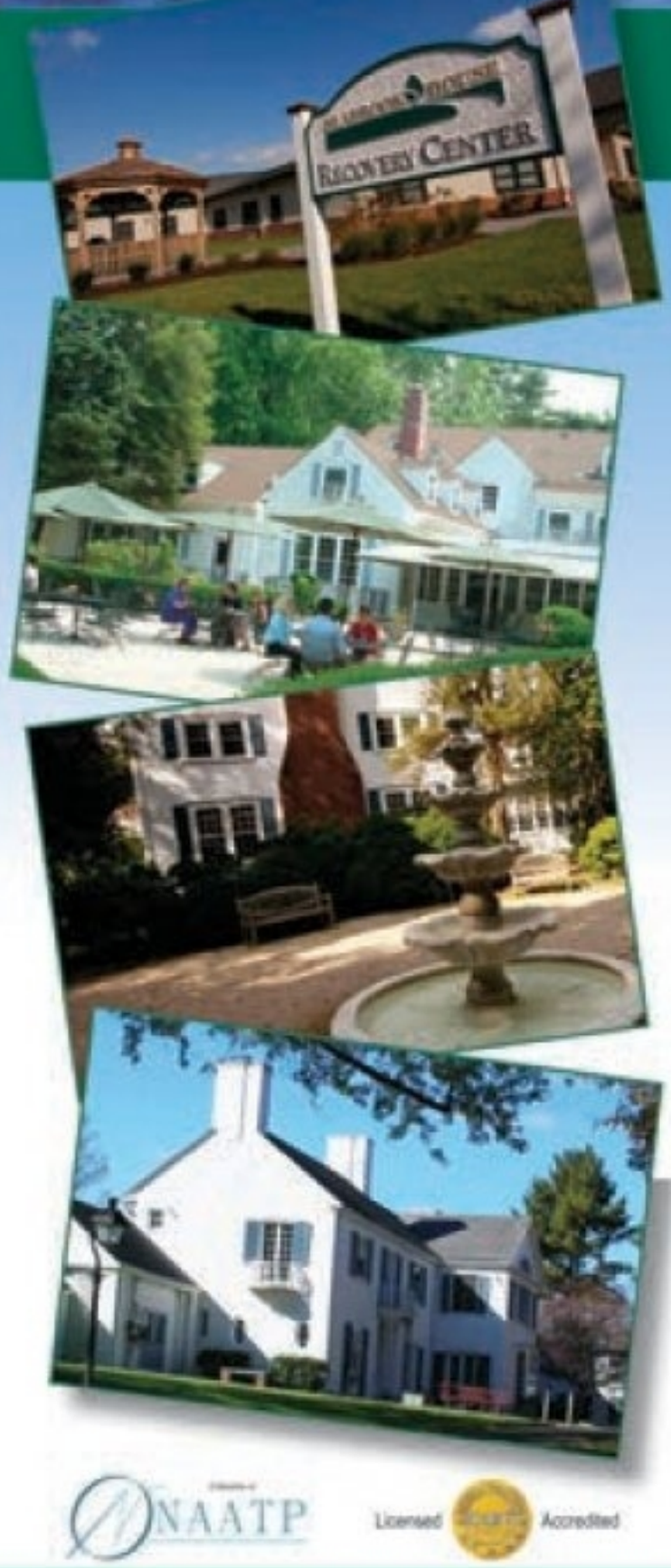

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